



MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents

FROM: Wes Bruce, Assistant Superintendent for Accreditation, Assessment and Licensing
Shawn Sriver, Director of Educator Licensing and Development

SUBJECT: Mentor Stipends

DATE: April 11, 2008

In 2005, the General Assembly eliminated funding to support the stipend for mentors and prohibited the Department from using any funds for mentor stipends. In the following session (2006), the General Assembly temporarily set aside the prohibition and allowed the Department to pay stipends with funds otherwise available to the Department. This allowed the Department to pay a \$600 stipend to mentors for the 2005-2006 school year and a \$330 stipend for the 2006-2007 school year.

The language that temporarily allowed the department to pay a stipend with additional funds expired on July 1, 2007. While we requested that the General Assembly extend our ability to pay a stipend, this did not occur; therefore, the Department will not be able to pay any stipend to mentors for 2007-2008.

Beginning educators still are expected to have a mentor. We continue to support the program and intend to work to restore full funding in the next session of the General Assembly.